

CLAIMS:

1. An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:  
an organic electroluminescent element, wherein the  
5 organic electroluminescent element has a pair of electrodes  
and an electroluminescent layer provided between the  
electrodes, wherein the electroluminescent layer contains at  
least two types of phosphorescent materials, and wherein  
each phosphorescent material emits light the color of which  
10 is different from the color of light emitted by the other  
phosphorescent material; and

a drive unit that is electrically connected to the  
organic electroluminescent element, wherein the drive unit  
supplies to the organic electroluminescent element a current  
15 that has a modulated pulse width and a constant amplitude,  
thereby causing the organic electroluminescent element to  
emit light.

2. The organic electroluminescent device according to  
20 claim 1, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of  
brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by a  
time gradation method.

3. The organic electroluminescent device according to  
25 claim 1, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of  
brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by a  
time gradation method and an area gradation method.

4. An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:  
30 an organic electroluminescent element, wherein the  
organic electroluminescent element has a pair of electrodes  
and an electroluminescent layer provided between the  
electrodes, wherein the electroluminescent layer contains at  
least two types of phosphorescent materials, wherein each  
35 phosphorescent material emits light the color of which is

different from the color of light emitted by the other phosphorescent material; and

a drive unit that is electrically connected to the organic electroluminescent element, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by an area gradation method.

5. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 4, wherein the current supplied from the drive unit to the organic electroluminescent element has a constant current density.

6. An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:  
an organic electroluminescent element, wherein the organic electroluminescent element has a pair of electrodes and at least two electroluminescent layers provided between the electrodes, wherein each electroluminescent layer contains a phosphorescent material, and wherein the phosphorescent material contained in each electroluminescent layer emits light the color of which is different from the color of light emitted by the phosphorescent material of the other electroluminescent layer; and

a drive unit that is electrically connected to the organic electroluminescent element, wherein the drive unit supplies to the organic electroluminescent element a current pulse having a modulated pulse width and a constant amplitude, thereby causing the organic electroluminescent element to emit light.

7. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 6, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by a time gradation method.

8. The organic electroluminescent device according to

claim 6, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by a time gradation method and an area gradation method.

5           9. An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:  
          an organic electroluminescent element, wherein the  
          organic electroluminescent element has a pair of electrodes  
          and at least two electroluminescent layers provided between  
          the electrodes, wherein each electroluminescent layer  
10       contains a phosphorescent material, and wherein the  
          phosphorescent material contained in each electroluminescent  
          layer emits light the color of which is different from the  
          color of light emitted by the phosphorescent material of the  
          other electroluminescent layer; and  
15           a drive unit that is electrically connected to the  
          organic electroluminescent element, wherein the drive unit  
          controls the gradation of brightness of the organic  
          electroluminescent element by an area gradation method.

20           10. The organic electroluminescent device according to  
          claim 9, wherein the current supplied from the drive unit to  
          the organic electroluminescent element has a constant  
          current density.

25           11. An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:  
          an organic electroluminescent element, wherein the  
          organic electroluminescent element has a pair of electrodes  
          and an electroluminescent layer provided between the  
          electrodes, wherein the electroluminescent layer contains at  
30       least two types of fluorescent materials, and wherein each  
          fluorescent material emits light the color of which is  
          different from the color of light emitted by the other  
          fluorescent material; and

          a drive unit that is electrically connected to the  
35       organic electroluminescent element, wherein the drive unit

supplies to the organic electroluminescent element a current pulse that has a modulated pulse width, a constant amplitude, and a current density equal to or more than 1 A/cm<sup>2</sup>, thereby causing the organic electroluminescent element to emit light.

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12. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 11, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by a time gradation method.

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13. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 11, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by a time gradation method and an area gradation method.

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14. An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:  
an organic electroluminescent element, wherein the organic electroluminescent element has a pair of electrodes and an electroluminescent layer provided between the electrodes, wherein the electroluminescent layer contains at least two types of fluorescent materials, and wherein each fluorescent material emits light the color of which is different from the color of light emitted by the other fluorescent material; and

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a drive unit that is electrically connected to the organic electroluminescent element, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by an area gradation method.

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15. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 14, wherein the current supplied from the drive unit to the organic electroluminescent element has a constant current density.

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16. An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:

an organic electroluminescent element, wherein the organic electroluminescent element has a pair of electrodes and at least two electroluminescent layers provided between the electrodes, wherein each electroluminescent layer  
5 contains a fluorescent material, and wherein the fluorescent material contained in each electroluminescent layer emits light the color of which is different from the color of light emitted by the fluorescent material of the other electroluminescent layer; and

10 a drive unit that is electrically connected to the organic electroluminescent element, wherein the drive unit supplies to the organic electroluminescent element a current pulse that has a modulated pulse width, a constant amplitude, and a current density equal to or more than  $1 \text{ A/cm}^2$ , thereby  
15 causing the organic electroluminescent element to emit light.

17. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 16, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by a  
20 time gradation method.

18. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 16, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic electroluminescent element by a  
25 time gradation method and an area gradation method.

19. An organic electroluminescent device, comprising:  
an organic electroluminescent element, wherein the organic electroluminescent element has a pair of electrodes  
30 and at least two electroluminescent layers provided between the electrodes, wherein each electroluminescent layer contains a fluorescent material, and wherein the fluorescent material contained in each electroluminescent layer emits light the color of which is different from the color of  
35 light emitted by the fluorescent material of the other

electroluminescent layer; and

a drive unit that is electrically connected to the organic electroluminescent element, wherein the drive unit controls the gradation of brightness of the organic

5 electroluminescent element by an area gradation method.

20. The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 19, wherein the current supplied from the drive unit to the organic electroluminescent element has a constant

10 current density.